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INTELLOFAX 7

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY China/Hong Kong/Singapore

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SUBJECT Pro-Soviet Guards Aboard Jardins Matheson Ships

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1. Many of the Jardine Matheson ships still maintain anti-pirate guards whose duty it is to handle contraband. There are four to six of these guards to a ship, and the majority of them are pro-Soviet. This is especially true of the ships of the Indo-China Steam Navigation Company, Ltd.¹, which ply between Japan and Calcutta.
2. Many of the guards aboard the ESANG, EASTERN QUEEN, KUTSANG, and the WUSANG² are known to be pro-Soviet. They receive very good pay. They spend considerable time with the Chinese crew, and [redacted] there is little doubt that the guards and crew could easily take over the ships, if an occasion for such action should arise.
3. The man in charge of the guards aboard the ESANG is Sergeant Ivanov, who holds a Soviet passport. [redacted]
[redacted]
[redacted] He was told to be alert for information of interest. "None of the guards aboard the ESANG is Victor Krasulia, [redacted] a Chinese Nationalist [redacted] but is very pro-Soviet.

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25X1A1. [] Comment. Javline Matheson Company, Limited are general managers of the Indo-China Steam Navigation Company. See Hong Kong Dollar Directory, 1951.

25X1A2. [redacted] Comment. According to information available to this office [redacted] all the ships mentioned have been in service on the run between Japan and Calcutta. The WUSANG is sometimes referred to as the WOSANG.

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